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PRESS RELEASE

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CROP LOSSES ESTIMATED AT \$26,000,000

San Luis Obispo County agricultural crop damage is estimated at \$26,000,000 for the 2007 harvest year due to extensive freezing temperatures occurring in January. Significant losses are itemized in the attached document and letter to the State Office of Emergency Services.

This data is preliminary and will be revised as additional survey information is obtained and agriculturalist are able to further assess damage due to the freeze.

The Governor has already declared San Luis Obispo County a State of Emergency and has also requested a USDA Secretarial Disaster Designation. This will provide for local assistance to growers who have suffered damage. For more information or assistance, growers are encouraged to contact the Farm Service Agency, USDA at 805-434-0398.